THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR. OMAHA, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1893. NUMBER 261.

THAT PUBLIC SKIRT DANCE

How the Corporation High Kickers Entertained the Senate Railroad Committee.

ED DICKINSON'S SALARY AND LOCAL RATES

Why Both Are High—Burt's Misstatement of Facts and Holdrege's Misrepresentations—Eustin's Advice to the State Legislature.

CINCINNATI, O., March 5.—Gentlemen of the Senate Committee on Railways: From a copy of THE OMAHA BEE of the 1st inst. I notice that a combination serpentine and skirt dance has been rendered before your honorable body by Messrs. Holdrege, Smith and Dewese of the B. & M., Messrs. Burke, Hawley, Buchanan and Morehouse of the Elkhorn, Messrs. Sholes and Perin of the Elkhorn's twin system, Messrs. Tiddemore and Jay of the Jay Pacific, General Low of the Rock Island and Messrs. Kimball, Kelley and Dickinson of the Union Pacific.

If you gentlemen have been living in a hole in the ground and have never heard of overcharges on freight, I can see how necessary it would be to get information from them, but, judging from the newspaper reports, this grand aggregation simply regaled you with song and dance as new as that late play, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Since it is evident your honorable body must be as anxious for pointers and information on transit in Nebraska as were the late members of our State Board of Transportation, I beg to refer to the sophistry as reported in THE BEE, hoping it may have at least as much influence with you as would water poured over a duck's back.

Why Iowa's Industries Have Grown.

Mr. Burt either willfully or intentionally misquotes comparative commodities for Nebraska and Iowa, which he bulls on one side and bears on the other in a way indicating that he depends on your swallowing his offerings in solid chunks, leaving your mental stomach to do both chewing and digesting. But were his statements true, then Iowa's prosperity is due to her local rates and our poverty to our high local rates. This gentleman spoke of local manufacturing in Iowa being greater than Nebraska, but he forgot to explain that Iowa local rates are what built up Iowa's local manufactures. Nebraska "home industry interests" asks our citizens to patronize them, and rightfully so, but these same gentlemanly "home industries," while asking patronage, make no exertion to get rates put on Iowa basis, so that wind and water may not wash out of our state to the railroad gamblers of Wall street and Boston from five to eight millions of dollars a year of our people's money that rightfully should be paid to home industry and those purchases owned by our state's toilers. He spoke of the coal mines of Iowa, but forgot to tell of the short haul they bring that state, while the roads get the long haul in our state. In a former letter I quoted from Iowa's reports showing that Iowa local rates had grown over six millions of dollars for last year over the year 1889, the same year that this same aggregation of polite liars told Iowa's business representatives that the rates then proposed would bankrupt the roads if put in force. The song they sung then was old and did not go in Iowa; the song they sang to you no doubt was new, but to the business man who knows Iowa and Nebraska it is "Sweet Violets" and "Johnny, Get Your Gun."

How Railroads Are Ruined.

Mr. Holdrege spoke of the ninety-nine odd millions they claim to have invested. For reliable information on that question see Mr. C. G. Dawes' argument before the committee of last session, the facts in his statement having been compiled from the railroad's report to its own stockholders. A 23 cent rate on corn from Hastings to Chicago is 40 per cent too high, and the B. & M.'s claim of its costing 9 mills per ton per mile to haul is an absolute falsehood coined from garbled figures, compiled for premeditated purpose of deception, and their secret corn rates made jointly with the Baltimore & Ohio at Beardstown, Ill., refutes Mr. Holdrege's statement as unworthy any sane man's credence. He claims that the road's credit is exhausted. This is deplorable to him, but a Godsend to us, when we remember that those roads are already mortgaged to banking rings and themselves (which the people must pay and assume in freight charges) for more than the roads are worth, even if the stock had no value at all, which it has not in fact, if based on the actual value of the road above the mortgage, did the people you represent have the business sense God gave geese.

The Pacific Short Line is in business for missionary purposes, same as the branch lines of the Union Pacific, and loses money every day—on paper. If arguments of poverty from profligacy on their part will influence you to make paupers of your state's producers, under their systems of railroad mistifying bookkeeping, then for your state's sake go home and smoke cigarettes, like a New York dude, until you are of age to grow brains that can stand alone.

Mr. General-Schemer Low of the Rock Island knows how ruinous railroad building is. His company is not yet dry behind its ears, and to hear him talk makes one feel like asking a bounty to him to reimburse for passes that his road has given out for missionary purposes.

Ed Dickinson's Poor Pay.

Mr. Dickinson of the Union Pacific, who only gets $33 per day for acting as wet nurse to one of the illegitimate babies of that pauper company, when asked what he did to earn his salary, "closed his argument with a general laugh." How amusing! If the railroads take a man's life his value is set at not to exceed $5,000. This is law. Five months of a branch line railroad manager's life is worth the highest value of any man's lifetime. The Union Pacific railroad absorbs its earnings in branch lines which should go to pay its national debt, and then tells us the nation holds no right over those lines for what is due us. This explains why Mr. Dickinson's management is worth $12,000.

Mike McDonald the merchant gambler of Chicago, keeps faro dealers who draw big salaries and a rake off. Attorney Kelley deals the railroad cards so that his figures show that $12,000 a year salaried managers get a lower average salary than trainmen or shopmen. I am sorry the details of his argument are not reported, for it must have been ingenious.

This same shell game of linguistic skill is used to show your honorable body that millions of bushels of grain are raised in our state, the value of which goes to railroad companies in transit, at a loss to the railroads (?), leaving but an existence to our Nebraska producers.

To cap it all a delegation of railroad employes protest at rate reduction, because they are assured that a reduction in rates means a reduction in wages. Every intelligent railroad man—not a whipped cur—knows his wages are screwed down to the lowest possible notch under any tariff, and this deputation is a branch of well meaning yellow cats in the hands of the railroad monkeys, used to pull out stolen chestnuts from our industrial fires. The wise railroad operative will work for transit to be put under civil service rules, as is postal service, where honest merit will receive a free man's wages unawed by petty tyrants who draw from $33 to $50 a day salary. It would be a shame to reduce Dickinson's salary, or Thurston's, or investigate the Union Pacific Coal company or its private freight car lines. The fact is, these men who manage railways under present ton per mile stock-jobbing systems are suffering with softening of the brain and insanity, brought on by self-abuse of the truth, and their vicious habits tend to corruption of official public life, and to the destruction of individual business liberty. Their disease is of a criminal, vicious nature. It would be cruel to confine them in the insane asylum, cruel to the honest, gentleminded insane of our states. They would come in contact there with their victims from the farm and factory and country town, whose reasons have been unhinged by the gambling modus operandi in transit which throttles and bleeds individual industrial opportunities.

Duty Plain Before It.

Gentlemen of the railway committees, if you and the present state legislature fail in giving our state reduced local rates comparatively as low as present Iowa local rates, you are criminal flunkies to the brutal power of usurped wealth. Fail in your whole duty in the light of facts which honest intelligence can gather from sources outside of "newspaper or political" coloring of any nature, and you brand yourselves as a body of representative asses fit only to bray to the piping of genteel villainy. There are excuses for honest differing in religion or politics, but none for any representative Nebraskan, but a brazen tool of transit agencies in failing to do justice to his state in freight rates. Not many of the average men think at all, and those who do do so for a personal direct consideration, as do the railroad attorneys, and twelve to fifty thousand a year managers exacting tribute under the head of transit.

Gentlemen, do your duty, as Iowa business men did in 1888-'89, and face the storm like men. Do not drift like a herd of cattle before a Santa Fe blizzard, as Kansas did.

If you fail to give us reduced local freight rates, for God's sake appropriate money to buy slot machines in which two slots are placed, and so arranged that we can put 10 cents in one slot, and then 5 cents in the other to get back the 10 cents, as we now do in railroad taxes. By this arrangement we will only lose 5 cents to the holders of the slot machine, same as each citizen now does on freight each hour, and get 10 cents of our money back in railroad taxes.

Everybody's business is nobody's, but local freight rates are business men's and "home industry's" business. A. J. GUSTIN.

SENATE IN A SAVING MOOD.

General Appropriations Not Being Greatly Increased—Hot Report Coming.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 8.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The action of the senate thus far in considering the general appropriation bill in committee of the whole is something of a disappointment to those who were counting on a wholesale increase of the appropriations for the various departments. The increase up to the present time amounts to very little, with the exception of the provision for the supreme court commission, which was not a reality at the time that the house had the bill under consideration. Cuts have been made in some places that nearly offset the increases, and members of the house are rejoicing in the hope that the senate will say that the work of the lower house was practically correct. Just what the senate will do in the matter of appropriations for state institutions is still a matter of conjecture, as it is there that the largest increases have been counted on.

Omaha's Charter Bill.

The committee of the senate having in charge the Omaha charter held a meeting this afternoon and decided not to allow any more public discussion of the bill by outsiders. This will cut off both friends and enemies of the charter from having any further hearing on the subject, either before the committee or on the floor of the senate, and lobbyists, pro and con, may as well stay at home, unless they are of the type that can successfully work state house corridors, hotel rotundas and sheltered places along the curbstones. The committee expects to submit its report about Friday and will probably report favorably on the bill, with the exception of the tax commissioner and the 62½-mill levy.

Killed a Junket.

The senatorial World's fair junket has been declared off. The unexpected publicity given it and the great amount of adverse comment that it excited, both from outsiders and the members of the lower house, who were strenuously opposed to having the senate get any farther behind the house on the legislative calendar than it now is, induced several of the twenty-one senators who had signed the agreement to vote on Friday for an adjournment until Tuesday, to change their minds, and uncontrollable grief is once more the lot of the railroad contingent in the upper house.

Governor Crounse has appointed Dr. T. C. Manary of Carleton as assistant physician at the Lincoln Hospital for the Insane under Dr. Hayes. It is stated that Albert Gilmore of Nemaha county will receive the appointment as steward at the institution. It is further intimated that there will be no change in the head of the insane asylum at Hastings, but that Dr. Johnson, who was appointed by Governor Boyd, will be allowed to retain the position of superintendent of the institution on the ground of his particular fitness for the place.

May Pay the Boys' Way.

The house committee on universities and normal schools held a meeting at the Lincoln this evening to consider the request of the battalion of cadets at the State university for an appropriation of $7,000 to take them to the World's fair and remain there a short time during the great exposition. Several of the officers of the battalion appeared before the committee to present their case and made a very favorable impression. Some of the members go so far as to state that the Nebraska exhibit will not be any too extensive, and as Nebraska produces boys that cannot be discounted by any state in the union it could not do better than to send a battalion of them to the Columbian fair.

Has a Roast in Store.

The special house committee appointed to investigate the penitentiary with reference to the cell house constructed with the $40,000 appropriation voted by the last legislature has completed its work and will probably submit its report tomorrow.

It will severely score the Board of Public Lands and Buildings, charging gross neglect of duty and indifference to the interests of the state, and that the action of the board amounted to nothing less than throwing down the bars to inevitable waste and collusion.

The committee jumps on Colonel Bill Dorgan with both feet, giving him a character for dishonesty rarely equaled in these days of whitewashing investigations. It gives facts and figures in proof of its assertions, and shows conclusively that the manner in which the appropriation was expended under the supervision and by the consent of the board was a monumental steal from start to finish. Never since the impeachment of Dave Butler has a state official received such a turning over by a legislative investigating committee as these officials, secretary of state, treasurer, commissioner and attorney general, are given by this committee. There is no mincing of words, and the committee calls upon the authorities to bring suit to compel the repayment of the various sums that have been corruptly diverted from the proper channels.

Ex-Senator Starbuck of Thayer county was a visitor in legislative halls today, watching the workings of the legislative machinery and listening to the racket made by the wheels in the occipital cavities of the law makers.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

Rains, Northerly Winds and Warmer Are the Predictions for Nebraska Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.—Forecast for Thursday: For Nebraska—Showers Thursday, northerly winds; slightly warmer.

For South Dakota: Generally fair Thursday; winds shifting to southerly and westerly; warmer in northern portions.

For Iowa: Rain, followed by clearing weather Thursday; northwesterly winds; warmer in western portion.

Movements of Ocean Steamers March 8.

At Lizard—Passed—Spain, from New York for London.

At Kinsale—Passed—Roman, from Boston for Liverpool.

At New York—Arrived—Runic, from Liverpool.

At Boston—Arrived—Grecian Prince, from Palermo; Lancasterian, from Liverpool.

BONILLA'S GREAT VICTORY

First Battle in the Honduras Revolution Quite Decisive.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL'S TROUBLES TO END

General Government of Brazil Finally Determined to Crush the Agitators and Their Army—Federals Very Much Demoralized.

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PANAMA, Colombia, (via Galveston Tex.), March 8.—[By Mexican Cable to the New York Herald—Special to THE BEE.]—Unconfirmed reports received here today via Nicaragua announce that in a decisive battle Policorpo Bonilla has won a great victory and entered Tegucigalpa in triumph. Nothing has been learned concerning the details of the battle. The news comes from the sympathizers of Bonilla in Managua. If such a battle has been fought it occurred after the steamer which reached here today left Amafala four days ago. When the steamer sailed from Amafala Tegucigalpa was still in the hands of the government.

News was also brought by the steamer that the provinces of Gadias and Santa Barbara, like those of Comayaua, are in arms against Bonilla's pretensions. Bonilla has strong support in the provinces of Olatcho and Tora in addition to General Siewa's army in Choluteca and the troops in Tegucigolpa, who were reported on Sunday to have revolted against their officers and announced their allegiance to Bonilla.

VALPARAISO, (via Galveston, Tex.,) March 8.—[By Mexican Cable to the New York Herald—Special to THE BEE.]—News has just been received from Rio Grande do Sul that indicates that the general government of Brazil has finally determined to crush the revolution which the federals have so long carried on in that state. The Herald correspondent telegraphs and adds that the federals have been defeated at San Borjas, Pyratyno and other points, losing many of their troops and horses. The reverses and the failure to secure arms and ammunition have demoralized the federals. Their troops have been increased by the Uruguayan authorities, who have stationed troops along the border to prevent the revolutionists from seeking hiding places in Uruguayan soil. A large body of revolutionists who sought to retreat into Uruguay yesterday were ordered back.

CHARLES DE LESSEPS EXPLAINS.

He Makes a Clean Statement of the Affairs of the Panama Canal Company.

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PARIS, March 8.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The first hearing in the trial of M. Prouet and his colleagues implicated in tue Panamo canal corruption business, gives the results which public curiosity expected. The hearing lasted from 11 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening. M. Charles de Lesseps had decided to tell all he knew, and did so. The whole session was taken up with his interrogators.

M. de Lesseps avowed his relations with Dr. Cornelius Herz and the late Baron de Reinach. Herz, said M. de Lesseps, was acquainted with President Grevy, which inspired confidence in M. de Lesseps.

The intervention of M. Clemenceau, M. de Freycinet and M. Floquet was also proven. Therefore the general opinion is that the political career of those three statesmen is absolutely at an end.

M. de Lesseps defended himself admirably. He spoke with surprising facility and explained with consummate art the ramifications of successful financiering. It is expected that tomorrow we shall hear revelations of the very highest importance. It is quite plain that there exists some secret in which Dr. Herz is concerned, but nobody wanted to mention it until now. Yet the truth will come out tomorrow in the interrogotory of the other accused perrons. The whole weight of this discussion, however, will be borne by M. Charles de Lesseps.

JACQUES ST. CERE.

CLEVELAND'S POLICY.

Bonds Will Not Be Issued by the Administration Unless Absolutely Necessary.

NEW YORK, March 8.—The Evening Post's special upon the bond issue and extra session says: "The president and the cabinet are agreed that the earliest possible repeal of the Sherman act is both desirable and necessary for the party's welfare. They fear, however, that a majority for the repeal could not be secured at present in either house of congress, and a failure might have a disastrous effect; hence, it is thought, the better course is to delay the assemblage of congress until early in the fall in order that public opinion, which is evidently turning, may exercise its influence in the meantime upon senators and representatives.

"The president and his cabinet are fully alive to the dangers involved in the delay, in consequence of the apprehensions regarding the immediate future among business men throughout the country, and propose to guard against them by early action, in accordance with the assurance in the inaugural address, that so far as the executive branch of the government can intervene, none of the powers with which it is vested will be withheld when their exercise is deemed necessary to maintain our national credit or avert financial disaster.

"This is the view which some of the best friends of the administration are presenting where it is likely to have influence. Speculators, therefore, who may be counting on a riot of bond sales, because all the signs point to the necessity of some kind of an issue before long, are likely to be deeply disappointed. Mr. Carlisle is a thoughtful man and very deliberate in his movements, and there is no danger that Mr. Cleveland would in any event override the secretary's judgement on such a matter as this.

"It is thought that the belief of Mr. Cleveland and his secretary of the treasury in their right to issue bonds in certain emergencies without further legislation was at the bottom of their consenting to a cessation of hostilities over the Sherman amendment. It is not probable, however, that either of them would feel justified in making such issue a large one. It would probably be $5,000,000, or $10,000,000 at the outside—a sufficient amount for an experiment. If it should be found that the effect of this issue was going to be nullified by a panicky feeling in the money market or by the operations of speculators, who would draw gold out of one door of the treasury as fast as they shoveled it in at the other, they would consider it better policy to suspend bond selling and let the people have a taste of business conducted everywhere in the country on a silver basis. Of course, gold would in that event go to a premium."

Vicar General Brady's Funeral.

ST. LOUIS, MO., March 8.—The funeral of the late Vicar General P. H. Brady was held today in the midst of a driving rain. Many persons passed around the catafalque taking their last look at the dead and the large church was densely packed.

Bishop Hennessey of Wichita, Kan., celebrated solemn high mass, assisted by Fathers McDonald and O. J. Hogg of Jefferson City, and Very Rev. H. Muhlsipen, V. G. Father M S. Brennan of St. Louis was master of ceremonies. Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia preached an eloquent sermon, in which he paid a tribute to the beloved father.

At the conclusion of the services the funeral procession was formed and proceeded to Calvary cemetery, where the interment was made in the priest's lot.

JOY IN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Good News from the United States Arouses Unbounded Enthusiasm.

HONOLULU, March 1.—Both the steamship China and Australia, which arrived on February 20 and 22, respectively, brought satisfactory intelligence to the provisional government and the American party on the islands. Excited throngs everywhere discussed the action decided upon by President Harrison and his cabinet, and the prompt action of the administration was warmly commended by all, irrespective of parties, as well as by the many German residents and the more intelligent natives. When the Australia arrived, bringing the news that a message from President Harrison had gone to the senate providing for a treaty of annexation, the enthusiasm knew no bounds. The day was the anniversary of the birth of Washington and was observed as a general holiday. The city and shipping were profusely decorated and on board the flag ship Mohican Admiral Sterrett and staff held a reception, attended by all prominent persons, exclusive of pronounced royalists.

Toward the close of the week a rumor was current that the senate would not ratify the treaty of annexation and several wagers were made that the queen would again come to the throne. Members of the advisory council in discussing the rumor said that if the United States refused to take action it would drive the provisional government to again take up arms.

Would Not Allow British Troops to Land.

Asked if overtures will be made to other powers if the United States declined the islands, the councillors replied they might be compelled to apply elsewhere if the United States troops were withdrawn. In this connection the fact is not generally known that the raising of the American flag was forced upon Minister Stevens and President Dole by the action of the British minister, who demanded the withdrawal of the Boston's forces. A consultation determined that the only course was to declare an American protectorate, in which the minister acquiesced.

Captain Hughes-Hallett, commanding the British ship Garnet, asked permission to land a body of men, stating that the British residents desired further protection. The request was denied.

The deposed queen not only refuses to see newspaper men, but excludes all but her most intimate friends.

The main idea to be controverted in order to appease native hostility to annexation is that the Hawaiians will not be deprived of any right they possess nor be placed under the power of what they call the "missionary element."

Judge Alfred S. Hartwell, one of the most prominent men of Hawaii, speaking of the revolution, said: "I did not join in the movement because I did not understand how it could succeed, not being preconcerted. Life and property was in imminent danger when the Boston landed her men. A delay of two hours would have brought on darkness and tumult. The United States protectorate was not declared a day too soon."

English and American Sailors Fight.

Several squabbles between the sailors of the British ship Garnet and those from the Boston and Mohican occurred ten days ago, resulting in many arrests. The captains of the American ships averted further trouble by declining to allow further shore leaves. The order was rescinded Saturday, however. On the arrival of the Japanese cruiser Naniwa a few days since the story was circulated that Japan proposed to annul the present contract under which some thirteen thousand of her subjects are laboring on the islands.

Japan for some time has been secretly encouraging emigration to Hawaii with the idea of colonizing the islands, and a cruiser has been dispatched to see what she could do in the way of annexation. Both rumors lack confirmation.

A farewell reception and ball was given at the opera house on February 24 in honor of Captain Wiltze, who relinquished command of the Boston that day.

The advisory council has repealed the act appointing governors for the various islands.

The provisional government has passed laws to carry out the provisions for a national loan of $750,000.

Story of a Mutiny at Sea.

The American bark Hesper, Captain Sodergren, arrived on February 21 with an account of a mutiny on January 13 which resulted in the death of Mate Fitzgerald. The Hesper is from Newcastle, N. S. W., for San Francisco. A plot was hatched to murder the captain, first and second mates, cook and a Greek sailor. The mutineers were then to run the vessel either to China or the Chilian coast, sell the cargo and fit the bark for a piratical cruise. On the night of January 13 Sailor Leclair sprang upon Mate Fitzgerald and felled him with a blow from a hatchet, continuing to gash him until the victim ceased to struggle. Dissensions then arose among the plotters and the first mate soon discovered the absence of Fitzgerald. The captain discovered blood on the deck and was told by Seaman Green that Leclair asked him and others to assist in throwing the body overboard. The captain thereupon ordered the arrest of the mutineers, and the bark headed for Tahiti. Enroute an attempt was made to release the mutineers, but without success. On her arrival at Tahiti the men were taken before the United States consul and confessed. The five prisoners were then sent to jail until the bark Tropic Bird left for San Francisco, where they will be tried.

WESTERN UNION AFFAIRS.

T. T. Eckert Will Succeed Dr. Norvin Green as its President.

NEW YORK, March 8.—The directors of the Western Union Telegraph company, in annual meeting today, elected T. T. Eckert, president, in place of Dr. Norvin Green, deceased. General Eckert remains also general manager.

The directors also declared the usual quarterly dividend of 1¼ per cent, payable April 17. The report submitted shows a surplus on October 1, 1892, of $14,476,155, of which there has been capitalized by the issue of capital stock, distributed December 3, 1892, $8,618,509; balance, $5,857,645; net revenues for the quarter ended December 3, 1892, $2,012,918; a total of $7,870,564.17, from which deducting $1,427,871 for dividend paid January 16, interest and sinking funds, leaves a surplus of $6,440,693 on January 1, 1893.

The net revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 1893, partly estimated, was $1,675,000. After appropriating interest and sinking fund charges and the dividend just declared there will be a balance of $6,689,819.

The board adopted resolutions eulogistic of the late Dr. Norvin Green, in which they say, after praising his personal traits and literary abilities: "At the time of his death he had presided over the official meetings of the directors and of the executive and other committees for more than fourteen years.

WHILE ON AN EXCURSION.

Charles Hackle of Ord, Neb., Kills Himself Enroute to Texas.

VINITA, I. T., March 8.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Charles Hackle, a German, aged 50 years, of Ord, Neb., committed suicide by shooting himself in the forehead on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas passenger train just before reaching this town tonight. In company with seven other gentlemen he was on an excursion to Portland, Tex. The remains will be sent back. Hackle, his companions say, was well off and owns four farms. He leaves a wife and nine children.

FITZ IN FOUR BRIEF ROUNDS

Jim Hall Knocked Out by a Single Punch from Long Bob's "Terrible."

GREAT CARNIVAL PROVES A FAILURE

Hardly Five Thousand People Attend the Last Event of the Series—Hall's Greed Almost Prevents the Fight—Details of the Affair.

RINGSIDE, CRESENT CITY CLUB, NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 8.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—This has been a disagreeable spring day for New Orleans, with an incessant driving rain from early morning until sunset. This has left narrow streets inundated, with slimy water and darker and gloomier than the perlieus of London, and the atmosphere with an edge on it akin to that of a Nebraska blizzard. Every one who ventured out became wet and bedraggled and a sort of wholesale disgust settled over all at a very early stage of the game.

To add to the very general depression prevailing, the air has been filled with suspicious rumors touching the great $40,000 battle between Fitzsimmons and Hall, in which stories of a gigantic fake and interference on the part of the authorities cut no little figure. But the big fight has been fought, and already the result has been flashed to the furthermost corners of civilization, and thus all of these untoward stories have merged into fable.

It Almost Fizzled.

However, these vague rumors had more of a foundation than but few suspected, for the battle did come within an ace of flashing in the pan. Being strictly on the inside circle, what is related here may be relied upon as gospel. At half-past 10 this morning the Hall contingent notified the officials of the Crescent City club that before any other action could be taken looking toward the consummation of the club's plans to pull off the big contest they would require two certified checks, one for $37,500 and the other for $2,500, to be deposited by 1 o'clock with the New Orleans Commercial National bank or the whole affair was off. Of course this threw the camp of the Crescents into dire consternation, and up to the prescribed hour there was some of the liveliest hustling on the part of the club that has marked the hitherto clear sailing of the organization. For a time there were the gravest kind of doubts whether the battle would come off or not, but that it has is all the evidence necessary to show that the demanded surety was duly raised and deposited.

This expose is made simply to demonstrate the utter foolhardiness and danger in any club hanging up such a large sum of money to be striven for by such an unreliable and disreputable quantity as the professional prize fighter.

Another thing, the combined carnival of two clubs, the Olympic and the Crescent, has been a frost. There is a possibility that it had its inception and development in the same spot that led to the imperious demand by the Hall party that the idiotic and unreasonable purse be put up. It has been a lesson that New Orleans clubs, at least, will remember and profit by to the end of their days.

Very Little Enthusiasm.

But the fight of the giants.

The crowd, while nothing in comparison to that which witnessed the Sullivan-Corbett fight, embraced possibly 5,000 people. They were a trifle late in arriving, and stragglers came dropping in even after the men had taken their corners, a potent evidence that the interest of the people in the contest had but a faint resemblance to that on the occasion so frequently referred to.

Hall, attired in a long light gray mackintosh, was the first of the gladiators to arrive, and while he was greeted with a rousing shout, it was but brief and spasmodic. Fitzsimmons shambled into the arena a half hour later, when the demonstration was even less marked. Both men were pictures of robust health and herculean strength and were glib and flippant in expressing their supreme confidence in proving the master of the other.

Started the Trouble Easily.

At 9 o'clock prompt Hall, followed by his backer, Squire Abingdon, Charlie Mitchell, Jack McAuliffe and John Kline, entered the ring, amidst a deafening silence, but when Fitzsimmons, with Frank Bosworth, his trainer, brother Bill and Martin Julian, came up the uproar was something tremendous.

Fitz was naturalized today, and stepped jauntily to his corner waving a large sample of the stars and stripes.

There was but little delay. The men were soon standing face to face, and the battle was on. Fitzsimmons at once assumed the aggressive. He soon discovered that Hall's defense was something marvelous.

In the first and second rounds Fitz got in a number of stiff body bows, but in return was visited stiffly in the face by Hall's left.

The third round was a terrific one, in which it was give and take from start to finish. Hall seemed to have a decided advantage for the first half, but in the last Fitz recovered and went at Hall like a fiend, landing tremendously blow after blow upon Hall's ribs, which he received, however, without a wince. The men were savagely at it when the round closed.

How it Was Ended.

The fourth was short. Fitz jabbed Hall once or twice in the face with his left, when suddenly, on Hall's endeavoring to force matters, Fitz's long right arm described a circle in the air and his big fist landed like a cannon shot on Hall's jaw. His feet went to the air as if a dynamite bomb had exploded under them, and his lanky form went to the floor like a thousand of bricks. His head struck with horrible force, the concussion even being felt by those in the press boxes about the ring.

Hall then lay flat upon his back as lifeless, apparently, as a man hewn from stone. He was counted out amidst a scene of wild excitement.

Charlie Mitchell sat as if paralyzed, but was soon at his friend's side, together with McAuliffe and the 'squire.

Hall lay unconscious for several minutes with Fitz standing at his side astride his stiffened limbs. The red-headed wonder wore a look of deep concern, until Hall began to revive, when he cavorted about the stage like a lunatic. Mitchell picked Hall up in his arms and carried him to his corner, and sat him in his chair, Fitz following closely and watching the work of restoration with a puzzled look upon his comical face.

Surprised the Attendance.

It required ten minutes to bring Hall around, and with Mitchell holding one arm and McAuliffe the other he was led slowly from the ring.

The whole thing happened with such suddenness that the big crowd could not realize what had occurred, but Hall's prostrate form too soon told the story.

From a scientific standpoint the fight was an unparalleled one, and will remain as such in the annals of the ring for many years to come. That Fitz is a wonder admits of no further dispute, and in case Mitchell falls at Corbett's hands Pompadour Jim will not be long wanting a worthy antagonist.

SANDY GRISWOLD.

DETAILS OF THE MILL.

How the Gladiators Worried Each Other Before the Battle Ended.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 8.—The battle of middleweights is over. The March carnival of pugilism has become prize ring history, and its record is before the country. It is important because of two things. One of its fights was for the largest purse ever fought for in a ring. The day of extravagant purses ended tonight. A magnificent crowd in point of size and personnel saw a great battle tonight. A victory won and a defeat suffered. The scene was the most superbly appointed fistic arena in any land. The interest tonight was not as great by many degrees as on the occasion of the battle for heavyweight supremacy last September when the ponderous pugilistic idol of the country was laid low by the modern prize ring David, but the fight tonight was nevertheless the most important and most general subject of conversation on the streets, in clubs, in saloons, in hotels and in parlors.

The committee had vetoed the efforts of the newspapers to bulletin the fight, because it did not want to keep any one away from the arena, but the telephone bells jingled merrily and bulletins found their way in every direction in spite of precautions.

Clubs and managers had tried hard for months to bring the Australians together, and after much bickering articles were signed. The greatest purse two men ever fought for was obtained and Fitzsimmons and Hall went their respective ways to prepare for the battle.

Either Seemed a Good Bet.

They are men of somewhat similar build. Both are giants, strong, stealthy, big boned, long armed, stubborn, formidable fighters, adepts in science, experienced in the ring and hard punchers. Each has a distinctive style. Each has been regarded as a wonder. So close was the match considered that for a long time even money was wagered on either, the pool rooms letting the bettor take his choice.

Hall promised to go into the ring a favorite. The east has been anxious to revenge itself on Fitzsimmons for the defeat of Jack Dempsey, and they went to Hall, not only because Hall was considered a good man, but because the section lines were drawn against the south and Fitzsimmons. There was not much choice, however, and the betting was consistent during the day.

Hall seemed most strongly a favorite and Fitzsimmons only slightly the choice of the talent. It was 9 to 10 Hall at nightfall and 95 to 100 Fitzsimmons. An influx of Fitzsimmons' men and several hundreds of Fitzsimmons' money appearing in the pool room late in the evening beat down Hall and made Fitzsimmons for the time the favorite, even money demanded for Hall and 4 to 5 on his opponent.

Wild rumors were rife before and after noon. There was unauthoritative threats of interference every hour of the day, and when these had been effectually run to earth there was a rumor that Hall had fallen out with his trainer, that the fight was fixed and that the purse would not be forthcoming.

Neither man worked hard on his last day before the fight. Each hugged his quarters, except when Fitzsimmons drove in a carriage to the criminal court and when Hall went around to Moreau's to get a bite with Charley Mitchell. Crowds trailed at the feet of either, but Fitzsimmons was the more popular from a local standpoint and local faith was in him and local money was on him.

It Was Noel's Busy Day.

President Noel was on the ground before dusk, and the police cordon was drawn about the building before the day had been absorbed by night. The crowd was representative in character and thoroughly cosmopolitan.

The two men reached the arena in ample time to rest and to prepare themselves for the battle. Charley Mitchell and Jack McAuliffe attracted as much attention as they entered the ring as did the stars themselves. Both men were drawn to a fine point, so far as condition was considered, but neither had taken off much flesh and were strong. They came into the ring with promptness and the crowd did not have long to wait for hostilities to commence.

Mayor Fitzpatrick was among the prominent officials who came early to see the royal battle. In the Hall corner the men chosen to look after his interests were Lightweight Champion McAuliffe, Charley Mitchell, 'Squire Abingdon Baird, and John Kline holding the watch. Most of them men of craft and experience. Fitzsimmons had men with less reputation, but not less faithful than Hall's attendants, Billy Fitzsimmons, his brother; Martin Julian and Frank Bosworth, D. G. O'Malley keeping time.

The men entered the ring at 9 o'clock promptly, Hall leading the procession.

Referee Duffy took his position almost immediately and both he and Hall were cheered loudly. Fitzsimmons came in waving the United States flag and received a tremendous ovation. President Noel and the chairman of the contest committee, Joseph Short, joined the men in the ring, while Captain Barrett took charge of the police detail. Referee Duffy made a neat speech, counseling the men to be careful and cool, and the fight was on.

Fitz Did the Fighting.

Round 1—Usual handshaking marked the opening. Both men stepped nimbly to center and feinted for an opening. Fitzsimmons attempted a left uppercut in stomach, but Hall backed away. He tried again for the head, and failing, clinched. Hall led for the stomach, but received a tap on the shoulder. Fitzsimmons scored a heavy left on Hall's mouth, a right on the heart, without return. The audience yelled. Hall made a wild left swing and Fitz smilingly dodged away. Fitzsimmons landed heavily with left on the stomach and dodged a return from the same hand. Hall landed a heavy right on the ear and Fitzsimmons clinched, Hall hitting Fitz with right on head.

Round 2—Fitzsimmons tried to reach the stomach with left, missed and backed away. Fitz attempted a right on the body, missing because of Hall's clinch. The men were extremely cautious, but Hall received a heavy left on the stomach, responding with a left on the head. Hall landed a good left blow, but received one on the head in return. Hall was trying to land his right and Fitz shifting, Hall slipped away. Fitz forced Hall in the corner, but the latter clinched to avoid punishment. Fitz tried the left, but was neatly stopped. Both men in a hot rally scored rights on the head.

Round 3—Fitzsimmons was the aggressor, feinting with his left, which he landed on the stomach. Hall received a right on the body and a moment later Fitzsimmons received two heavy lefts on the face and a heavy right uppercut. Fitz clinched to save himself, and Duffy had a hard time in parting them. Fitz was clinching to avoid punishment right along. Both men were fighting hard when the round ended.

Mister Hall's Fatal Mistake.

Round 4—Hall came up the aggressor. Fitz landed a heavy right on the jaw, knocking Hall into the middle of the ring. The blow was a tremendous right-hand swing and landed full on the point of the jaw. Hall was a long time in coming to, but he finally drew his left hand up to his nostrils and was finally helped to his corner by Fitzsimmons, his conqueror.

The referee awarded the contest to Fitzsimmons, who, waving the United States flag over his head, walked over to his opponent's corner and shook his hand, and as he was leaving the ring received a tremendous ovation.

When Frank Bosworth jumped through the ropes after Hall had fallen and the battle was apperently over, Fitzsimmons forcibly thrust his officious second back through the ropes. He kept his word and did his own fighting. The fight was the easiest Fitzsimmons has had in America, and the blow that knocked Hall out was universally said to be the hardest that any one of the old ring habitues ever witnessed.

Hall Was Paralyzed.

The audience rose to its feet and a tremendous shout went up. Hall, however, lay unconscious on the carpet, a look of agony on his face and the crowd fearing he had suffered serious injury. Hall's second ran quickly to the prostrate pugilist, and applying restoratives gradually brought him back to consciousness. Fitzsimmons also ran to the center of the ring, and pulling off his gloves helped to resuscitate his conquered foe. When Hall had been brought to he was carried limp to his chair, where he remained until able to go to his dressing room. Fitzsimmons was frenzied with delight over his comparative easy victory.

Hanged for Murder.

MAGNOLIA, Miss., March 8.—L. K. Ford was hanged today for the murder of Marshal B. A. Clay a year ago.

SYSTEM THAT KILLS

How Convicts at the Penitentiary Have Been Punished to Death.

LEFT AT THE MERCY OF BRUTAL GUARDS

No Chance to Escape or Appeal When Sentence is Once Pronounced.

OFTEN TORTURED FOR MINOR OFFENSES

Almost Anything Suffices to Send a Prisoner to the Torture Chamber.

RESULT OF LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION

Evidence on Which the Joint Committee Concludes That Frank Powell Was Murdered—Recommendations for Changes in the Penitentiary Management.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 8.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Today in the senate the report of the joint committee appointed early in the session to investigate the penitentiary was submitted. The affair which particularly invited attention was the death of convict Frank Powell, No. 2,032, who was said to have committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell. The report of the committee charges that Powell's death was the direct result of punishment inflicted by the cell house keeper and guards.

During its investigation the committee took an immense amount of testimony, examining a great number of witnesses, including the officers of the penitentiary, state officials, prison guards, prison missionaries, convicts and ex-convicts. In the several hundred pages of type-written testimony is contained a story of cruelty and inhumanly brutal treatment accorded to helpless prisoners, the details of which would cause a smile of approval to illumine the face of any of Thomas de Torquemada's lieutenants, were he spared from his eternal rest long enough to peruse it. THE BEE has had an opportunity to review this testimony, and from it has condensed the following as being the evidence of reliable witnesses and fairly presenting both sides.

Elder Howe Describes It.

Among the responses of Elder Howe, chaplain at the penitentiary, to the questions asked him about the treatment of convicts, were the following:

"About eight years ago I was called by the warden, Mr. Nobes, to go to the dark hole one Sunday morning after service. He said that he had a man in there that he did not want to have stay there after noon as he would lose all of his good time. He was sent in for ten years and went in the dark hole on Saturday. He came to the penitentiary and would not answer any questions and he was put into the dark hole. We went down. The man was lying down with a small rope about his neck, and his hands were handcuffed behind him and the other end of the rope was fastened to them, and he had gotten into a corner of the room and had slid down so that he could not get back and was obliged to remain where he was lying. That was a mode of punishment that to me was barbarous, a relic of barbarism. He had been in twenty-three hours, and was very much exhausted.

"Your hands are handcuffed, and this rope was tied on and your hands are drawn up just as far as the man that puts it on wishes to do it; if he is mad he will draw them up this way, and then it is all the time drawing you, and every time you move your hands it will saw them. There is nothing between your skin and this rope."

Depends on the Brute Who Does It.

Other information elicited from the chaplain was to the effect that the warden ordered the punishment in cases of this kind, and he could deputize somebody else to do it. The warden does not put on the rope or the handcuffs, as that is done by the cellkeeper. The warden is not present, but goes occasionally afterwards to see how the man is getting along, and the doctor calls every day, or is supposed to.

The chaplain said he purposely avoided knowing anything about the punishments if he could help it, as he had enough care and anxiety with the boys, and with all the load and responsibility he carried did not want to carry any of the responsibility of the warden or any of the men. He knew of a case three or four years ago, when a man was punished twenty-two to twenty-four days under Warden Hyers. It was a case of attempted mutiny, and this was quite a large man, and the leader of the mutiny. They were getting poor meat to eat, and there were forty or fifty of them in the mutiny and the warden was very angry about it and went down and ordered forty of them into punishment. They hadn't regular cells enough and so they were handcuffed and kept in their cells for several days. The leader was kept in there until Dr. Carter, who was the physician at that time, ordered him released because he could not stand that amount of punishment without injuring him; maybe he would be under punishment a day or two and be released a short time, but in all it was twenty-four days of continuous punishment.

Cruelty Was Very Common.

He was handcuffed all day and night, and had this rope on him all the time except when he ate. He was let down after being there twenty-three days and was then put on for eight days more, and came out of the cell a skeleton. He was a stubborn man and would not yield. The order of the physician was sufficient to get him out at any time. Other cases of cruelty were very frequent.

"I know of one previous to that," he said, "under Mr. Nobes, who was kept in, I think, about ten days. He was a rather feeble man, and when he came out he was very feeble and soon went to the hospital, and was there until he died. I think that hastened his death, but otherwise he would have died, as he could not have lived a great while.

"This mode of punishment has never changed as long as I can remember. It is different under different administrations, being more severe under one than the other. This is the cure for all diseases, and you can often tell by the looks of the neck if they have been in there for some time.

How Powell Was Killed.

"I do not know anything about Powell's case only what I have heard. I buried him. It was an uncommon thing, though; he was put into the coffin and the coffin closed up before I got there, which has never occurred before since I have been chaplain. I think it was undesigned; a new deputy warden had charge and he probably did not know the rules, which were that I should see every man, and see whether it was a man or something else. I could not swear that I buried him, though I supposed that I did. They generally call me right off when there is a death, but I was not notified in this case until I was called to the funeral.

"There should be reforms, and those reforms should be made sure and soon. I do not see how a man hanging up under the circumstances that he hung, with his hands fixed as they were, could let himself down. I do not know how he could do that. The pay of the guards should be increased until you can hire men that can be trusted to take care of your sons and daughters, and the representatives of the state, in my opinion, should look after that most carefully. What kind of men can you hire for $20 a month to work there? You need a class of men you can trust, but you get a class of men that is low down, lower than many of the